(b) The Bangladesh Government have assured us that their position has not changed.

Support for Independence of Tibet

1982. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some members of the Union Government have supported independence of Tibet; and

(b) if so, what is Governments' policy towards Tibet ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b) The Government of India's stand on Tibet remains consistent and well-known. Tibet is recognised as an autonomous region of China.

Visit of a Team of Amnesty International to Punjab

1983. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a U.S. Congress delegation visited New Delhi in the first week of January, 1990 urging Government to invite a team of Amnesty International to visit Punjab;

(b) if so, what was the specific demand of the delegation, indicating the position of the Amenesty team proposed to be sent to Punjab by the said delegation; and

(c) what is Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) & (c) Congressman Solarz, Chairman of the Home Sub-Committee on the Asia and Pacific, visited India during the first week of January, 1990. He advised P.M. and me that the Indian Government's denial of access to Amnesty International was generating adverse reactions against India in the US Congress and enquired about the new Government's thinking on this issue. Congressman Solarz was informed that the Government was deeply committed to human rights and that the policy relating to Amnesty International was under consideration.

Activities of Anand Margis in West Bengal

1984. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the activities of Anand Margis in West Bengal;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto, including that to the activities of their political wing 'Anand Bengali' ?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MUFTI MOHAMMAD SAYEED): (a) to (c) The State Government of West Bengal has sent a report regarding certain illegal activities of the Anand Margis and its front organisations. In Mach, 1989 the State Government officials, while undertaking the demolition of an unauthorised construction raised by the Anand Margis on the forest land and Bansgarh Mouza, PS Jhalda in the district of Purulia, detected a secret hide-out of Anand Margis where unauthorised fire-arms were also stored. Large quantity of arms were recovered and cases under Arms Act were registered. Following this, raids were conducted in the Anandnagar Ashram premises and from there also incriminating